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EDITORIALS.

EDITORS, E. D. COPE AND J. S. KINGSLEY.

—THE elements are accumulating at Lincoln, Nebraska, for a rather complicated educational puzzle. The State University was established here some twenty odd years ago. Since that time the State has treated it liberally, and some five or six years ago, under the careful guidance of Dr. Bessey, it ceased being a plaything of sectarian plans and came rapidly forward until it stands to-day one of the strongest institutions of learning in the west. In all future educational matters it will be an important factor. Within recent years Lincoln has developed a regular craze for "University" building. Simply to "boom" real estate, colleges are constantly being founded in the immediate vicinity of the city, it being a poor year which does not see the installation of a new "University" in Lincoln or its suburbs. At last information (now three weeks old) Lincoln had, besides the State University, the following other institutions of so-called higher education: Nebraska Wesleyan University, Cotner University, Union University (we thought the Schenectady institution had the copyright on that name) Normal University, Western Normal College and an Episcopal College, the name of which is not at hand. Six institutions, not one of which can maintain a decent college course, to say nothing of making University pretensions. Land speculation and sectarian pride are responsible for their existence. From the educational standpoint they are entirely uncalled for.

As to their future it would seem as if one or two things could occur. They will either drop absolutely out of existence, or they will develop into fitting schools for the stronger and better endowed State University or for denominational schools in other places. At first sight one would think that there would naturally come about affiliation and union; a development of each in its own line. But apparently not. Denominational pride, and more probably conscious incompetence will prevent any mixing, any exposure of the young to the knowledge that they are receiving the veriest sham under the name of a college education.—K.